

Unemployment

- “Kentucky’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate of 5.7 percent for May was lower than the 5.8 percent recorded for April, according to the Department for Employment Services, a Cabinet for Workforce Development agency. In May 2002, the state’s seasonally adjusted unemployment rate also was 5.7 percent. The U.S. seasonally adjusted jobless rate in May increased to 6.1 percent from 6 percent in April. Kentucky’s unemployment rate has either been 5.7 percent or 5.8 percent each of the past four months,” said Carlos Cracraft, the department’s chief labor market analyst. “May marked the 14th consecutive month that Kentucky’s unemployment rate has been lower than the U.S. unemployment rate.”
- In the Bluegrass, there was no change in the unemployment rate (4.4%) from April 2003 to May 2003.

KENTUCKY LABOR FORCE ESTIMATES – NOT SEASONALLY ADJUSTED PRELIMINARY MAY 2003

	Civilian Labor Force	Employment	Unemployment	Unemployment Rate		
				May 2003	April 2003	May 2002
Bluegrass	361,367	345,521	15,846	4.4	4.4	4.3
Anderson	10,077	9,772	305	3.0	3.8	4.6
Bourbon	9,524	9,043	481	5.1	5.9	5.6
Boyle	15,339	13,734	1,605	10.5	7.1	5.1
Clark	16,055	15,228	827	5.2	5.0	4.7
Estill	5,756	5,403	353	6.1	6.6	5.6
Fayette	143,515	138,535	4,980	3.5	3.7	3.7
Franklin	25,025	24,228	797	3.2	3.1	3.1
Garrard	7,873	7,544	329	4.2	4.4	4.1
Harrison	7,617	7,194	423	5.6	6.6	6.8
Jessamine	21,032	20,388	644	3.1	3.0	3.0
Lincoln	11,821	10,902	919	7.8	6.9	6.2
Madison	36,504	34,877	1,627	4.5	4.1	5.0
Mercer	11,168	10,620	548	4.9	5.3	4.5
Nicholas	2,494	2,318	176	7.1	9.1	9.3
Powell	6,347	5,772	575	9.1	8.2	6.8
Scott	18,429	17,473	956	5.2	6.0	4.9
Woodford	12,791	12,490	301	2.4	2.3	3.2
Statewide*	1,993,270	1,883,966	109,304	5.5	5.6	5.5
U.S. Rate*				5.8	5.8	5.5

Source: Kentucky Department for Employment Services

*The data contained in the charts above are not seasonally adjusted. County unemployment rates are comparable to the non-seasonally adjusted Kentucky statewide and U.S. unemployment rates in the chart above.

Unemployment in the Bluegrass WIA
1990 through 2003

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Ann
1990	5.0%	5.2%	4.7%	4.4%	4.5%	4.7%	4.6%	4.4%	4.5%	4.6%	4.7%	4.7%	4.7%
1991	5.7%	6.2%	5.7%	5.3%	5.0%	5.1%	5.3%	4.8%	4.5%	4.4%	4.6%	4.8%	5.1%
1992	5.5%	5.5%	4.8%	4.4%	4.5%	4.8%	4.6%	4.3%	4.4%	4.3%	4.3%	4.2%	4.6%
1993	4.9%	4.7%	4.5%	4.3%	4.2%	4.4%	4.2%	3.9%	4.0%	4.1%	4.0%	3.9%	4.3%
1994	4.8%	4.8%	4.3%	4.1%	4.1%	4.2%	3.6%	3.6%	3.7%	3.6%	3.5%	3.3%	4.0%
1995	4.0%	4.1%	3.6%	3.2%	3.3%	3.5%	3.4%	3.4%	3.2%	3.2%	3.3%	2.9%	3.4%
1996	4.0%	3.9%	3.5%	3.4%	3.2%	3.4%	2.9%	2.9%	3.2%	3.3%	3.2%	3.0%	3.3%
1997	4.0%	3.8%	3.4%	3.1%	3.0%	3.3%	2.8%	3.1%	3.1%	2.8%	2.5%	2.6%	3.1%
1998	3.0%	3.1%	2.8%	2.6%	2.4%	2.7%	2.4%	2.5%	2.3%	2.4%	2.4%	2.3%	2.6%
1999	3.0%	2.9%	2.8%	2.3%	2.3%	2.4%	2.6%	2.3%	2.2%	2.2%	2.2%	2.1%	2.5%
2000*	2.7%	2.8%	2.4%	2.0%	2.1%	2.5%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.4%	2.6%	2.4%
2001*	3.6%	3.7%	3.7%	3.4%	3.6%	3.8%	4.2%	4.0%	3.9%	4.0%	4.5%	4.2%	3.9%
2002*	5.4%	5.1%	4.6%	4.2%	4.3%	4.3%	4.2%	3.9%	4.0%	4.1%	4.1%	4.0%	4.3%
2003	5.0%	5.2%	4.8%	4.4%	4.4%								

Source: Kentucky Department for Employment Services

* Data has been benchmarked

May 2003 data is preliminary

